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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/711,952 | 10/15/2004 | Ming-Feng Ho | AIPP0001USA | 5951 |
| 27765 7590 07/02/2007 NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION P.O. BOX 506 MERRIFIELD, VA 22116 | | | EXAMINER REYES, MARIELA D | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2167 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | NOTIFICATION DATE 07/02/2007 | DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/711,952

Applicant(s)

HO ET AL.

Examiner

Mariela D. Reyes

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 October 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on June 07th, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13 and 14 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nair et al (US Patent 6,366,824).

With respect to claim 1, Nair teaches:

A method for online real-time query about a current status of an optical component, comprising:

Setting up a database and utilizing the database for recording information about the current status of the optical component , wherein the information includes a manufacturing status of the optical component before the optical

component is made; (Column 5 Lines 4-8, discloses a Manufacturing Reference Database that stores the status and condition of a manufactured product during the manufactured process)

Establishing a connection between the database and a remote terminal through the Internet; and (Column 1 Lines 58-60, discloses communicating the manufactured information to a coupled corporate system and Fig. 2A Element 252, discloses that the end user system will use a Netscape Tool, a tool well known in the art for use in the Internet)

Utilizing the remote terminal to read the information stored in the database for acquiring the current status of the optical component, wherein when the remote terminal reads the database before the optical component is made, the current status includes the current manufacturing status of the optical component. (Column 5 Lines 8-17, discloses that the manufactured information including the status information for each system is transferred to a corporate system so that it can be read and analyzed)

With respect to claim 2, Nair teaches:

The optical component is a mask used in a semiconductor process.
(Column 4 Lines 53-56, discloses that the item being manufactured is part of a semiconductor device)

With respect to claim 3, Nair teaches:

Providing a manufacturing execution system (MES) and utilizing the manufacturing execution system for transmitting the information to the database. (Fig. 3, discloses using a manufacturing execution system for managing the database and transferring the information)

With respect to independent claim 7, Nair teaches:

An online real-time query system for online real-time query about a current status of an optical component, comprising:

A server utilized for hosting a database to record information of the current status of the optical component wherein the information contains a current manufacturing status of the optical component before the optical component is made; and (Column 5 Lines 4-8, discloses a Manufacturing Reference Database that stores the status and condition of a manufactured product during the manufactured process)

A remote terminal coupled to the server through the Internet for reading the information stored in the database (Column 1 Lines 58-60, discloses communicating the manufactured information to a coupled corporate system and Fig. 2A Element 252, discloses that the end user system will use a Netscape Tool, a tool well known in the art for use in the Internet) **for acquiring the current status of the optical component.** (Column 5 Lines 8-17, discloses that the manufactured information including the status information for each system is transferred to a corporate system so that it can be read and analyzed)

With respect to claim 8, Nair teaches:

The optical component is a mask used in a semiconductor process.

(Column 4 Lines 53-56, discloses that the item being manufactured is part of a semiconductor device)

With respect to claim 9, Nair teaches:

Providing a manufacturing execution system (MES) and utilizing the manufacturing execution system for transmitting the information to the database.

(Fig. 3, discloses using a manufacturing execution system for managing the database and transferring the information)

With respect to claim 13, Nair teaches:

When the optical component has a new manufacturing status before the optical component is made, updating the manufacturing status of the optical component by the new manufacturing status. (Column 5 Lines 1-3, discloses that the status information of the manufactured products is receives and transmits the status information in real time)

With respect to claim 14, Nair teaches:

When the optical component has a new manufacturing status before the optical component is made, updating the manufacturing status of the optical

component by the new manufacturing status. (Column 5 Lines 1-3, discloses that the status information of the manufactured products is receives and transmits the status information in real time)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nair et al (US Patent 6,366,824) in view of Yanky et al (US Patent 5,918,183).

With respect to claim 4:

Nair teaches **receiving the current position of the mask to the database during product delivery process.** (Column 5 Lines 1-5, discloses tracking the manufacturing status and condition of the manufactured products)

Nair doesn't explicitly disclose **providing a global positioning system (GPS) and utilizing the global positioning system for transmitting the current position of the mask.**

Yanky teaches **providing a global positioning system (GPS) and utilizing the global positioning system for transmitting the current position.** (Abstract, discloses using a global positioning system to enable highly accurate, virtually instantaneous

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determination of an item position, therefore making tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to provide a **global positioning system (GPS) and utilizing the global positioning system for transmitting the current position of the mask** motivated by the fact that using a global positioning system will make the tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable.

With respect to claim 10:

Nair teaches **receiving the current position of the mask to the database during product delivery process**. (Column 5 Lines 1-5, discloses tracking the manufacturing status and condition of the manufactured products)

Nair doesn't explicitly disclose **providing a global positioning system (GPS) and utilizing the global positioning system for transmitting the current position of the mask**.

Yanky teaches **providing a global positioning system (GPS) and utilizing the global positioning system for transmitting the current position**. (Abstract, discloses using a global positioning system to enable highly accurate, virtually instantaneous determination of an item position, therefore making tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to provide a **global positioning system (GPS) and utilizing the global positioning system for transmitting the current position of the mask** motivated by the fact that using a global positioning system will make the tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable.

Claims 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nair et al (US Patent 6,366,824) in view of Eckstein et al (US PG Pub 2001/0040507).

With respect to claim 5:

Nair doesn't explicitly disclose **providing a radio frequency identification (RFID) system; building a chip in the mask; and utilizing the RFID system for detecting the chip to generate the positional information and transmitting the positional information to the database.**

Eckstein teaches **providing a radio frequency identification (RFID) system;** (Abstract, discloses a system including RFIDs) **building a chip in the mask;** (Paragraph [0011], discloses attaching an RFID tag to an article) **and utilizing the RFID system for detecting the chip to generate the positional information and transmitting the positional information to the database.** (Abstract, discloses that the RFID system will be used to identify the position of the electronic device, therefore making tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to provide **a radio frequency identification (RFID) system; building a chip in the mask; and utilizing the RFID system for detecting the chip to generate the positional information and transmitting the positional information to the database** motivated by the fact that using a RFID system will make the tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable.

With respect to claim 11:

Nair doesn't explicitly disclose **providing a radio frequency identification (RFID) system; building a chip in the mask; and utilizing the RFID system for detecting the chip to generate the positional information and transmitting the positional information to the database.**

Eckstein teaches **providing a radio frequency identification (RFID) system;** (Abstract, discloses a system including RFIDs) **building a chip in the mask;** (Paragraph [0011], discloses attaching an RFID tag to an article) **and utilizing the RFID system for detecting the chip to generate the positional information and transmitting the positional information to the database.** (Abstract, discloses that the RFID system will be used to identify the position of the electronic device, therefore making tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to provide **a radio**

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frequency identification (RFID) system; building a chip in the mask; and utilizing the RFID system for detecting the chip to generate the positional information and transmitting the positional information to the database motivated by the fact that using a RFID system will make the tracking of packages extremely accurate and reliable.

Claims 6 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nair et al (US Patent 6,366,824) in view of Beverina et al (US PG Pub 20010027389).

With respect to claim 6:

Nair doesn't appear to explicitly disclose **providing a login system and utilizing the login system for controlling reading the information corresponding to the mask stored in the database according to security rules; wherein if login data inputted by the remote terminal into the login system conforms to the security rules, the login system allows the remote terminal to read the information.**

Beverina discloses **providing a login system and utilizing the login system for controlling reading the information corresponding to the mask stored in the database according to security rules; wherein if login data inputted by the remote terminal into the login system conforms to the security rules, the login system allows the remote terminal to read the information.** (Paragraphs [0361] and [0371], discloses a login system to access information stored in a database, therefore making the database secure because only people with the privileges to access the database can access it)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to provide **a login system and utilizing the login system for controlling reading the information corresponding to the mask stored in the database according to security rules; wherein if login data inputted by the remote terminal into the login system conforms to the security rules, the login system allows the remote terminal to read the information** motivated by the fact that this will make database secure because only people with the privileges to access the database can access it.

With respect to claim 12:

Nair doesn't appear to explicitly disclose **providing a login system and utilizing the login system for controlling reading the information corresponding to the mask stored in the database according to security rules; wherein if login data inputted by the remote terminal into the login system conforms to the security rules, the login system allows the remote terminal to read the information.**

Beverina discloses **providing a login system and utilizing the login system for controlling reading the information corresponding to the mask stored in the database according to security rules; wherein if login data inputted by the remote terminal into the login system conforms to the security rules, the login system allows the remote terminal to read the information.** (Paragraphs [0361] and [0371], discloses a login system to access information stored in a database, therefore making

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the database secure because only people with the privileges to access the database can access it)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references to provide a **login system and utilizing the login system for controlling reading the information corresponding to the mask stored in the database according to security rules; wherein if login data inputted by the remote terminal into the login system conforms to the security rules, the login system allows the remote terminal to read the information** motivated by the fact that this will make database secure because only people with the privileges to access the database can access it.

Response to Arguments

Claim Rejections 35 USC 102

Applicant's arguments with respect to the 35 USC 102 rejections on claim 1-3, 7-9, 13 and 14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mariela D. Reyes whose telephone number is (571) 270-1006. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 7:30- 5:00 East time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MR Jun 21st, 2007
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